Interior Department Innovations in Conservation Delivery

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A few modest challenges

- Climate change
- Land use and habitat change
- Invasive species
- Wildfire
- Species conservation
- Energy development (renewable and conventional)
- Multiple competing demands (including that of "change")

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Lessons …. and Goals

- Operate at landscape scale (put local into context)
- Operate across jurisdictions
- Integrate multiple uses / demands
- Ensure tight linkages between science and management
- Facilitate adaptive management
- Get ahead of the curve
- Partners are key

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- NPS / FWS Inventory and Monitoring Program
- Rapid Ecological Assessments – Bureau of Land Management **+ partners**
- Landscape Conservation Cooperatives – All DOI bureaus **+ partners**
- Climate Science Centers – ALL DOI bureaus (USGS lead) **+ partners**

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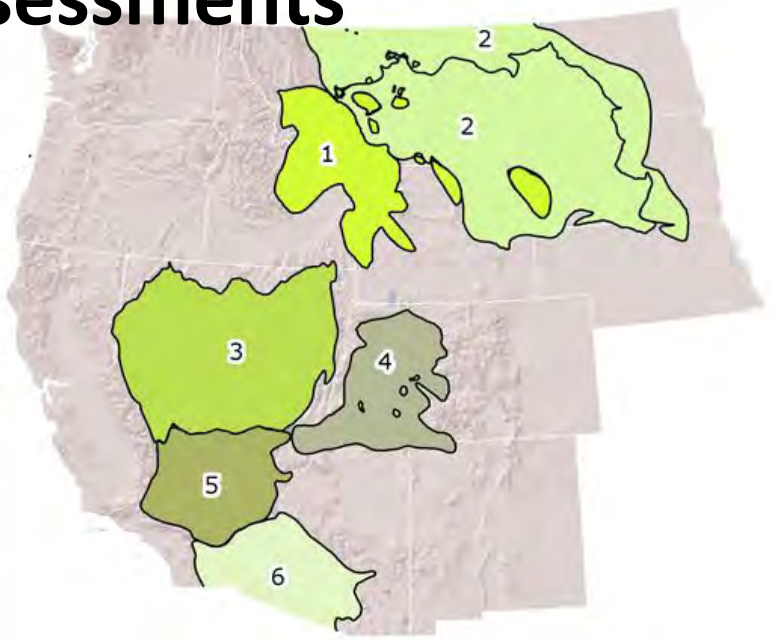
BLM Rapid Ecoregional Assessments

Key purposes:

- **Synthesize existing information**
- **Identify potential areas for conservation and development**
- **Project future trends from climate change, fire, invasive species, development**
- **Establish baseline ecological data to gauge change, management effectiveness**



Create direct links to management and decision making

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Fundamentals

- Consistent approach
- Rapid: approximately 18 months
- Use only **AVAILABLE** information
- Seek interagency participation
- First REAs completed in 2012

- Common management questions, change agents, conceptual models
- Appropriate peer review
- Opportunity for public involvement

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Field Implementation

Making it real through:

- Land Use Planning
- Use authorization/BMPs
- Land tenure adjustments
- On-the-ground projects
- Sub-assessments and monitoring
- Budget Process
  - How to focus and share resources

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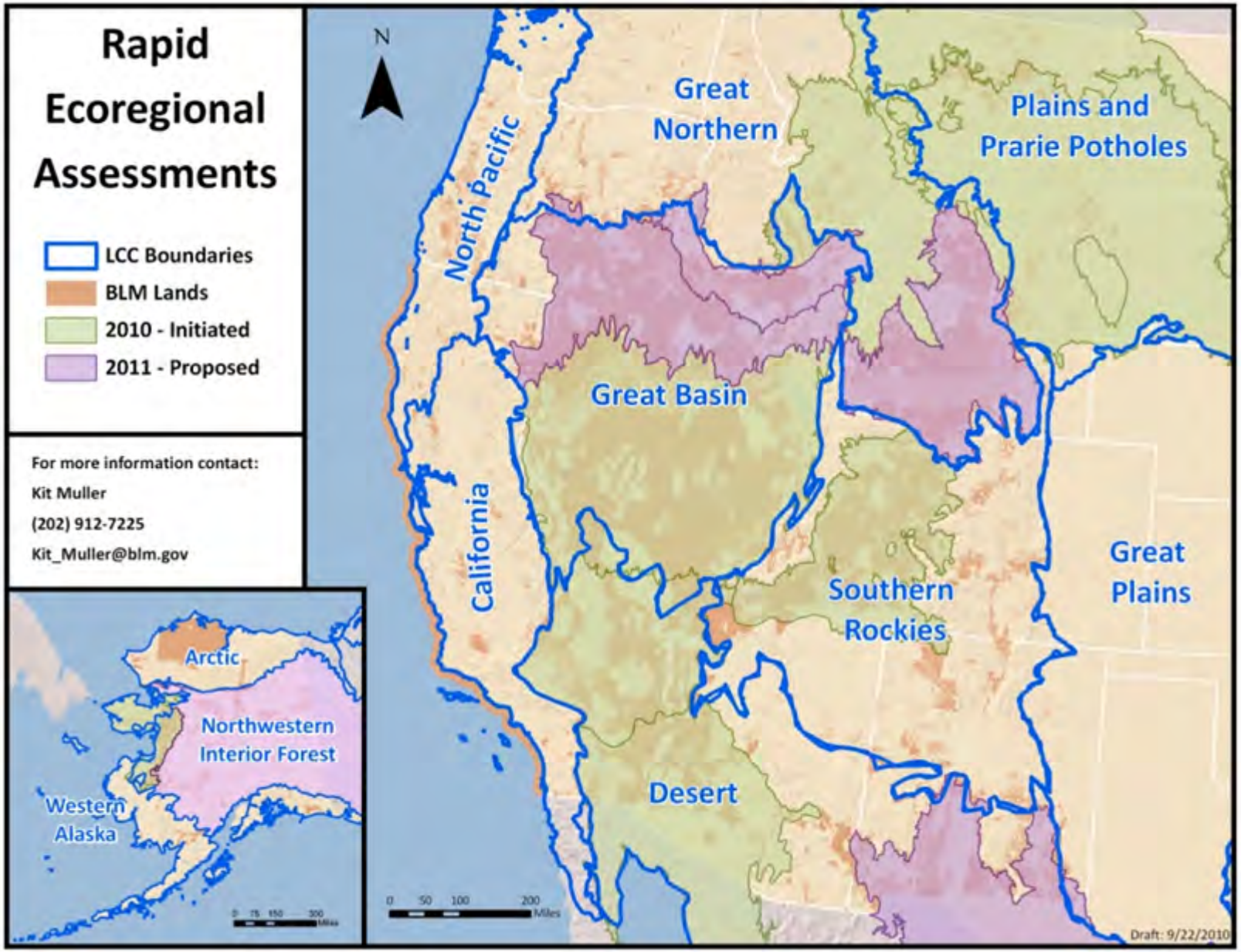
Key REA Partnering Opportunities

Initiation	Phase I	Phase II
• Participate on assessment management or technical team • Define preliminary management questions • Identify common landscape issues • Prepare assessment work plan	• Refine management questions • Suggest conservation elements • Suggest change agents • Recommend potential data sets • Recommend methods and models	• Provide available data
	• Provide technical review • Participate in peer review	


Rapid Ecoregional Assessments
LCC Boundaries
BLM Lands
2010 - Initiated
2011 - Proposed
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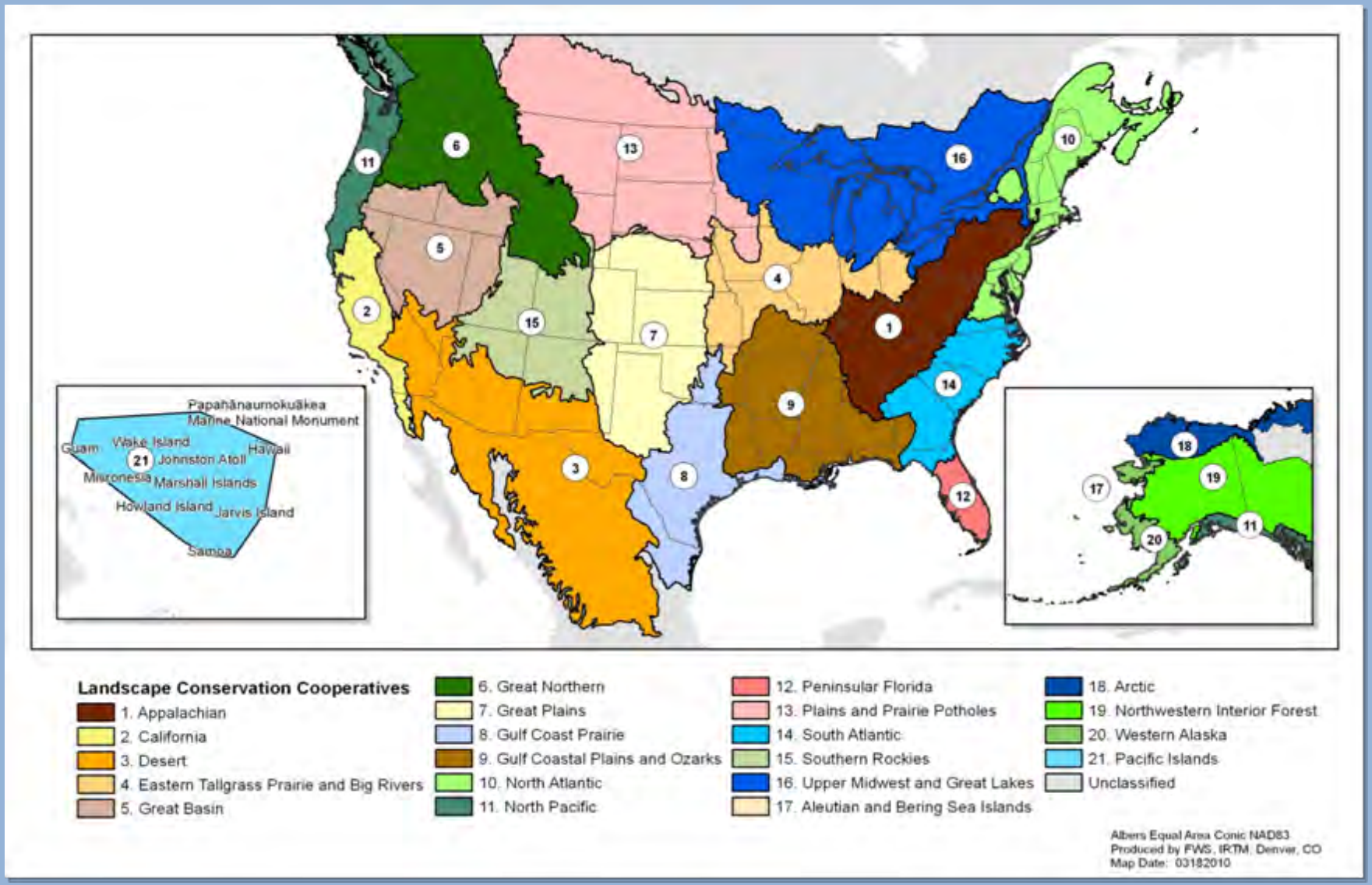
N
North Pacific
Great Northern
Plains and Prarie Potholes
Great Basin
California
Southern Rockies
Great Plains
Desert
Arctic
Northwestern Interior Forest
Western Alaska
0 50 100 200 Miles
Draft: 9/22/2010

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives: Geographic Areas



Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
What are they?

Applied conservation science partnerships. Partners include federal and state agencies, Tribes, conservation organizations, and universities within a geographically defined area

Fundamental units of planning and adaptive science that inform conservation actions on the ground

A national and international network of land, water, wildlife and cultural resource managers and interested public and private organizations

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Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
What do they do?

- Identify common goals and priorities
- Link science and conservation delivery
- Support biological planning, conservation design and adaptive management
- Evaluate the effectiveness of scientific information and conservation actions

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Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
Key Components

- A steering committee of partners
- LCC coordinator
- Planning and technical staff
- GIS capability and other scientific expertise
- Communications

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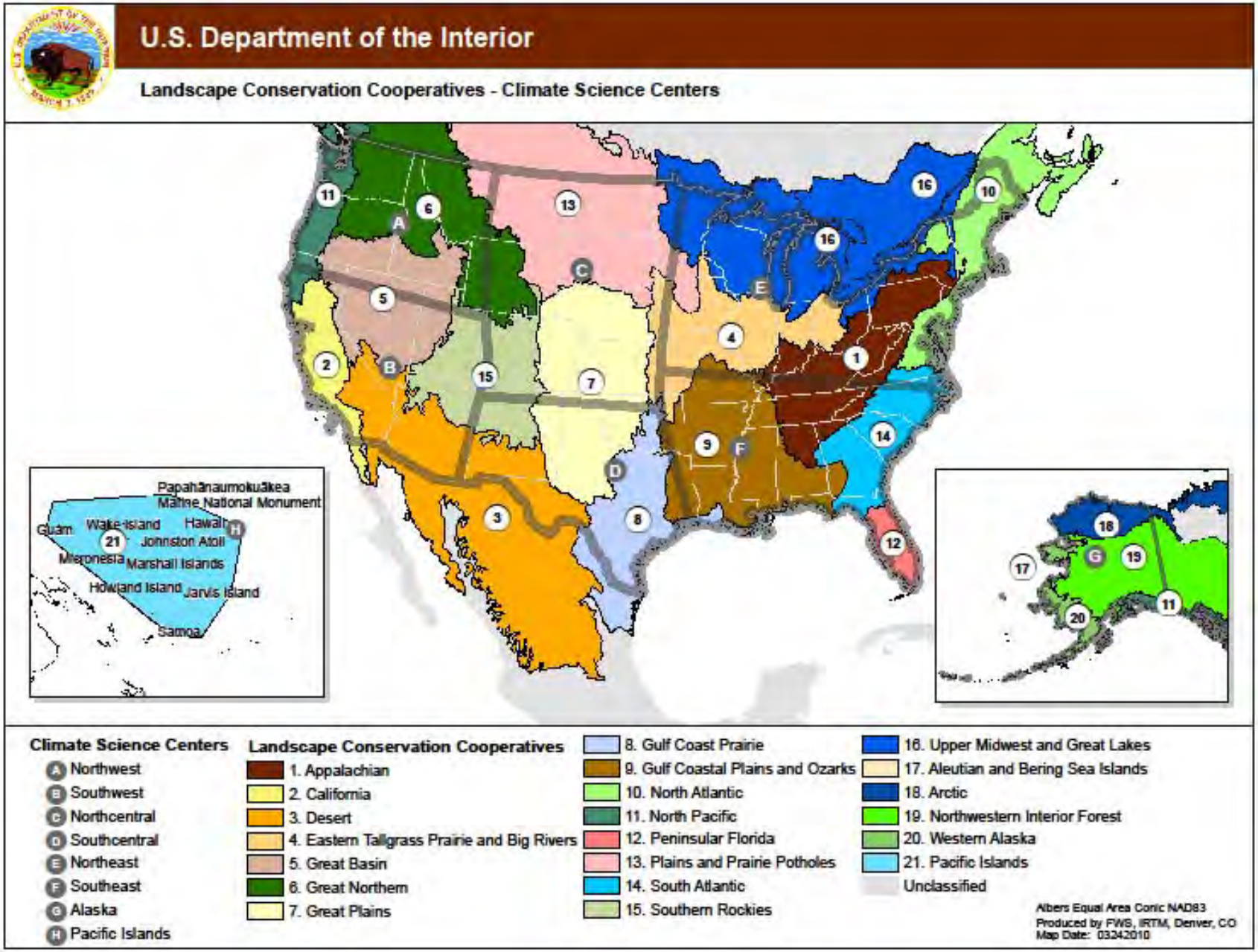
U.S. Department of the Interior
Landscape Conservation Cooperatives - Climate Science Centers
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
Guam
Wake Island
Hawaii
Johnston Atoll
Micronesia
Marshall Islands
Howland Island
Jarvis Island
Samoa
Climate Science Centers
A Northwest
B Southwest
C Northcentral
D Southcentral
E Northeast
F Southeast
G Alaska
H Pacific Islands
Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
1. Appalachian
2. California
3. Desert
4. Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers
5. Great Basin
6. Great Northern
7. Great Plains
8. Gulf Coast Prairie
9. Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks
10. North Atlantic
11. North Pacific
12. Peninsular Florida
13. Plains and Prairie Potholes
14. South Atlantic
15. Southern Rockies
16. Upper Midwest and Great Lakes
17. Aleutian and Bering Sea Islands
18. Arctic
19. Northwestern Interior Forest
20. Western Alaska
21. Pacific Islands
Unclassified
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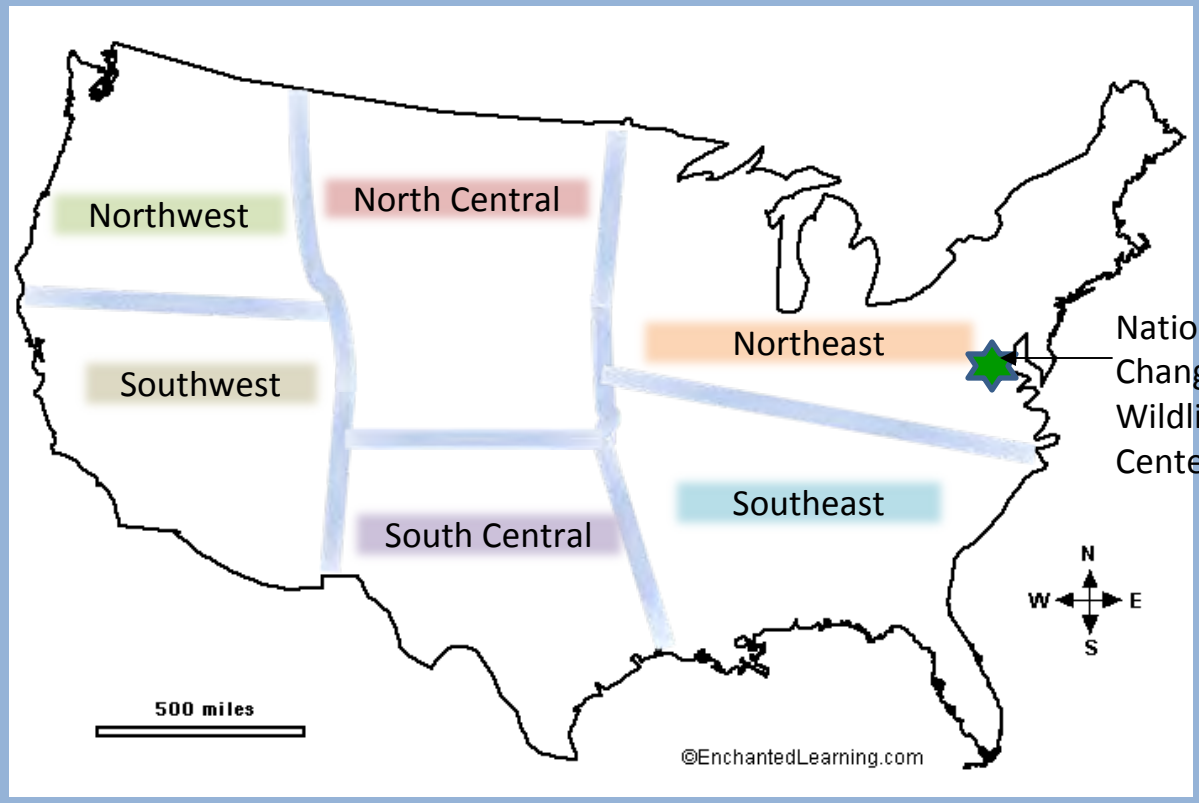
Produced by FWS, IRTM, Denver, CO
Map Date: 03242010

Climate Science Centers--Regions



National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center

"Fuzzy Boundaries"

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DOI Climate Science Centers

Priority Science Activities:

- Integrate physical climate models with ecological, habitat, and population response models
- Develop models and forecast fish and wildlife population and habitat changes
- Develop methods and assess vulnerability of species and habitats
- Develop standardized approaches to modeling and monitoring

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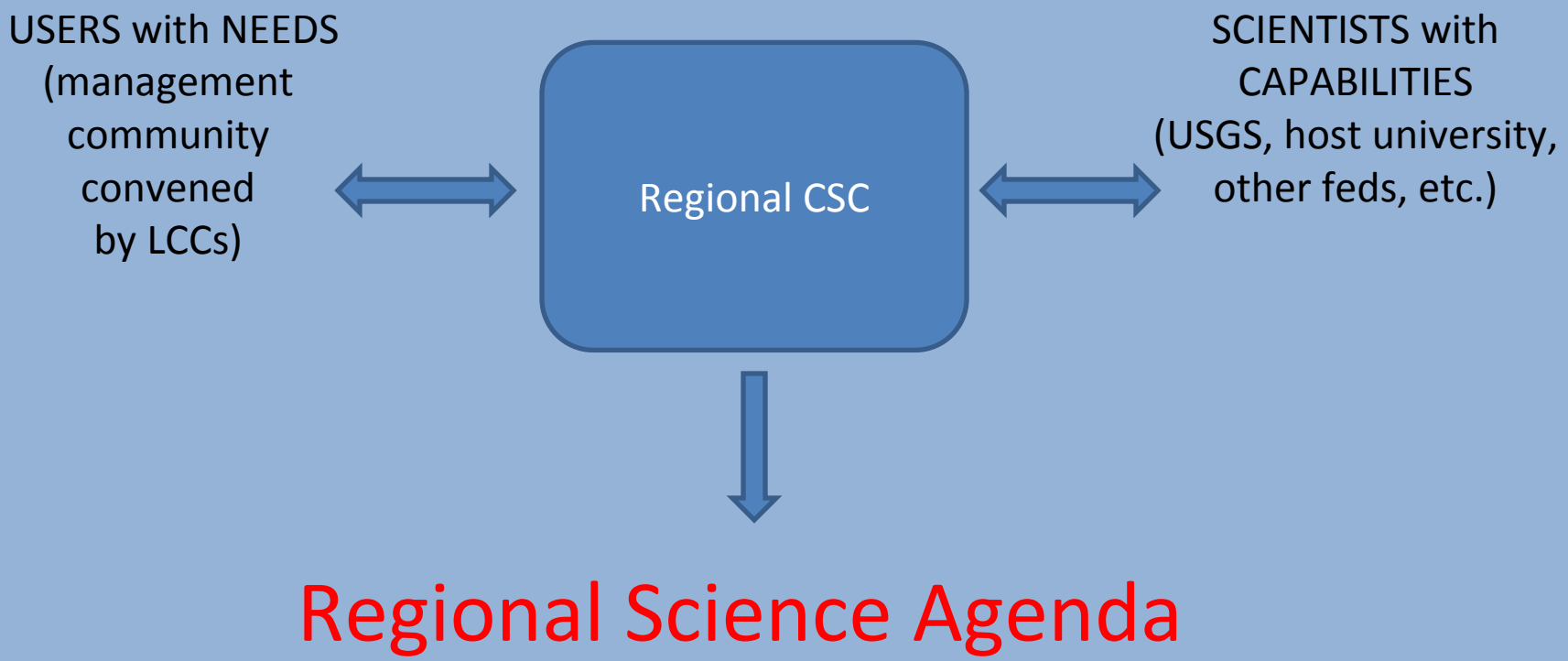
DOI Climate Science Centers

- Government – university partnership
- Driven by science needs identified by LCCs and other managers
- “Co-development” of science
- Three funded and being implemented (NW, SE, AK)
- Two identified by awaiting FY 11 budget (SW, North Central)
- Three to be established in FY 12 (NE, South Central, Pacific Islands)
- $3-4 million per center per year
  (at full operational scale)

Climate Science Centers

Potentially most valuable role?

Convener of the parties



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A new model

- Landscape scale – by design
- Collaborative priority setting
- Strong management linkages
- Translational science
- Collaborative science planning
- Nimble design, flexible resources
- Collaboration is an assigned task


Thank you